

The Charlotte Observer

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NORTH CAROLINA MINERALS.

The War Minerals Bill which Congressman Webb got through appears to have had a stimulating effect on the production of minerals in North Carolina. It was intended to develop the mineral resources of this State, where a greater variety of substances than in any other State in the Union. Some of the North Carolina minerals are of but little value commercially or for war purposes; on the other hand some of them are of the first importance and exist in greater abundance than in any other part of the country.

North Carolina mica has been known for years as "standard mica," and is considered the best grade of mica on the market. Many of the western counties contain mica in large quantity and its production has been constantly increasing for several years, reaching a total in 1917 of \$531,501. The principal mica-producing counties are: Mitchell, Macon, Jackson, Yancey, Haywood, Transylvania, Avery, Watauga, Ashe, Cleveland, Buncombe, McDowell, and Stokes.

Monazite is found very extensively in the gravels of Cleveland, Rutherford, Burke, Polk, Lincoln, Catawba, McDowell, Gaston, and Alexander Counties. All the production is from placer mines. The gravels are washed and the concentrates cleaned magnetically, so that the final monazite product contains approximately 95 per cent monazite.

The value of mineral productions in the State during the year shows a large increase over the production of any previous year, amounting to \$5,254,912. There was a net gain in the production of clay and clay products of \$610,852. This increase in the mineral productions of the State is set down directly to the stimulating influences of war necessities, and a still more gratifying increase is expected the following year.

THE BREAK THAT DICKMAN WANTED.

Before he left Charlotte for the front, General Dickman was repeatedly dwelling on the fact that one end of the German line was fastened to the North Sea and the other to the Alps. If the Allies could break either end away, he contended, then the road would be opened to flanking movements that would be the undoing of the German Army. The situation which General Dickman had long held in contemplation has arrived. The Belgians have broken the German hold on the upper end of the line and the German commanders who have been dominating that section are now being pushed back into Belgium.

A PATRIOTIC AMERICAN.

The War Government can lay claim to no more patriotic a servant than Colonel Macomb, commander at Camp Greene. He is proving the most active factor in the success of the Liberty loan campaign in Charlotte and Mecklenburg and is not only making speeches at whatever appointment "the boys" may set for him, but he has a habit of taking on a bond or so at each speaking.

CAMERON, LIGGETT AND BULLARD.

The Americans have been the special object of German concern in recent days and it is against these that the German commanders have massed their "crack" troops, the Prussian Guards. Upon the holding back of these Americans depends the salvation of the greater part of the German Army. German effort is now being centered against the commands of Generals Cameron, Liggett and Bullard, and so desperate is the determination that the Prussian Guards are "fighting to the death."

MAJOR YOUNG.

Major John G. Young, who has come home in sleep, was a North Carolinian in every fiber of his being. His life, from boyhood to mature manhood, was spent in Charlotte, and though for many years he had been missing from social and business circles of the city, he had never been forgotten.

BURIAN'S TIP.

London evidently took faith in the Amsterdam reports of the Kaiser's abdication, as evidenced by the fact that extras of the papers were printed and circulated among a wildly excited populace. Great Britain does not often become excited without cause, and it is possible that the abdication, as a matter of fact, has occurred. Baron Buriian, the Austrian Foreign Minister, who has figured as somewhat of an authority in peace movements, indicates as much. His reference to the alterations in the German Constitution under which, he claims, the political point in President Wilson's reply "is settled," manifestly is meant to convey the impression that the Kaiser has dropped out of the affair.

THE MESSENGER BOY.

What has become of the telegraph messenger boys? Formerly the doors around the offices of the wire companies were congested with these young Americans, but there appears to have been a mysterious disappearance of the "gang." The messenger boy is not in so much evidence as formerly, and possibly this condition may be ascribed to Mr. Burleson, rather than to the war—the people have a habit of charging up everything against the war. Color is given to the belief that Mr. Burleson's Administration has somewhat to do with the partial extinction of the messenger boy, through the Postmaster General's indicated intention to utilize postal letter carriers in the delivery of the "night letters." The plan is to have night message delivery made through the men who carry the mail routes in all cities and towns where free delivery is provided, to the supplanting of the telegraph messenger boy. Maybe this is another step in Burleson "economy," and maybe after a while all of us will have to "carry and take" from the telegraphic office.

DIDN'T KEEP THEIR WORD.

Wasn't it Von Arnim's men who valiantly assured the Kaiser a few weeks ago that they "shall not pass," referring to the threatened advance of the Allied armies on the Hindenburg line? At any rate, it is a good time to recall the incident. The Germans kept their word in this instance with about the same success which Hindenburg kept his pompous promise to be in Paris by April 1, only the failure in this case meant something serious for the German cause, whereas the outcome of the Paris incident only served to make Hindenburg the laughing stock of the world. And now it is these measly Belgians that have the 17 divisions of Von Arnim's Army on the fastest run of the year.

STRONG ELECTION LAWS.

The North Carolina "corrupt practices act," which is a terror on its face, but which was probably never intended to be taken seriously, has been reinforced by the Government. President Wilson has signed a general bill covering vote-buying and selling, that offense now coming under direct jurisdiction of the Federal Government. The North Carolina law makes it a law to so much as tempt a voter with a cigar, while to offer such a thing as a drink would be the same as treason. One must be careful how he goes about "persuading" the voter. If he misses the local rock pile, he might find himself facing the Atlanta penitentiary.

A CHANGE IN TACTICS.

It is a startling change in tactics on part of the German Army which was developed in their forced departure from the city of Lille. They neither burned a house nor exploded a mine. They left the city practically undamaged by German occupation, and this is something that has never happened in the course of German warfare in the present war. Perhaps the German Government is now giving more thought to the bill of indemnity its wanion soldiers have been piling up and is hoping for a good score as a result of their conduct from now until they stack arms.

A DIFFERENT BELGIAN.

Mark it down that the Belgian soldiers are coming in for a share of the glory in the German defeat. For years these Belgians have been kept standing in the mud of Flanders waiting for orders to advance. The chance to get at the Germans was a long time coming, but the Belgians were not slow at jumping on the job. It is a different sort of a Belgian from the one the Germans knew four years ago, for the Belgian has been changed through a four-years' storage up of wrath, and an accumulation of blood in the eye.

The Berlin War Warts has dropped into a despondent mood. It is sure the war is coming to an end, and in manner "no man in Germany wants." The end it sees is just the sort that "through four terrible years," the German aim and efforts "were to prevent." There is nothing like contented resignation.

Secretary McAdoo has set his foot down on any extension of the fourth Liberty loan period beyond Saturday night, and he is right. The American people can easily carry out the contract within the specified limit and there should be no occasion for more time.

NEWSPAPER SENTIMENT

THE GROCERY CLERK. (From The Kansas City Times.) A Kansas man in France attacked a party of six Hun, bayoneting one and bringing in the rest as prisoners. The Newton Kansas says the soldier used to be a grocery clerk and was accustomed to doing nine or ten things at once.

EVER PRESENT.

(From The Richmond Times-Dispatch.) Kaiser Wilhelm's constant repetition of the adjective "grave" in connection with his military affairs may betoken that the word's familiar meaning when used as a noun is not absent from his thoughts.

THE ARMENIAN PRAYER.

(From The Macon Telegraph.) On account of being sorry for what has happened to their good friends, the Turks, it's likely the Armenians will confine their prayers to the hope that it's worse than the newspaper reports would lead one to believe.

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

(From The Oshkosh Northwestern.) The spectacle of the Kaiser fervently appealing to the German people to continue giving him their confidence and support is suggestive. Time was when the Kaiser simply commanded these things, and the German people humbly obeyed without any thought of questioning the authority of the all-highest.

BERNARD BERTHOUD'S DAILY REMINDER

"IN THE DAYS NEWS." Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, who today enters upon his 78th year, will long be remembered as the originator of the national pure-food laws of the United States.

TODAY'S ANNIVERSARIES.

- 1813-The French were compelled to yield in the second day's fighting at Lelaspac.
1818-Charles E. Mudd, founder of the famous lending library of London, born. Died October 24, 1870.
1827-The last lottery authorized by the British government was drawn in London.
1831-Frederick III, of Germany, father of the present Kaiser, born at Potsdam. Died there, of the flu, in 1888.
1840-Ceremony of the exhumation of the body of Napoleon Bonaparte at St. Helena.
1893-Charles Francois Gounod, famous composer, died at St. Cloud Born in Paris, June 17, 1818.
1914-After the armistice, the allies checked the German advance on Dunkirk.
1915-Austro-Germans took Obrenovatz on the save.
1916-Germans launched an attack against Russian lines from the Pinsk marshes to Rumania; a distance of 300 miles.

ONE YEAR AGO TODAY IN THE WAR.

German naval force took Moon island from the Russians. Reported in Washington that munitions had broken out in the German navy. Russian battleship Slava sunk in engagement with German naval vessels in Gulf of Riga.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS.

Brig. Gen. Charles M. Saltzman, U. S. A., a noted expert of the signal corps, born in Iowa, 47 years ago today.
Frederic Harrison, perhaps the most distinguished survivor of the literary Victorian epoch, born in London, 87 years ago today.
Sir Henry Craik, member of the Privy Council and for many years secretary of the Scottish education department, born in Glasgow, 72 years ago today.
Frank R. Wilson, who has served as publicity director of the United States Liberty loan, born in Woodbury Conn., 47 years ago today.
Nikola Tesla, famous electrical inventor, born in Austria-Hungary, 61 years ago today.

THE OPEN FORUM

SIX MONTHS' SCHOOLS.

Surry Teachers and Committeemen Take a Decided Stand. To the Editor of The Observer: At a two-day conference for rural teachers held in Surry county October 10 and 11 by the superintendent, and supervisor and Mr. L. C. Brogden, of Raleigh, the question of six months' school terms for rural schools, which is now under debate, was brought before the teachers and committeemen in joint session. Never before has the tide of enthusiasm run so high and all over the courtroom men and women rose to their feet instantaneously to take a stand for the issue. One man said, "We want our children to have the best," another, "I'm willing to pay my tax," and another added, "I'm willing to pay my tax and to get my neighbor to pay his." Resolutions were presented by Schuyler, Wall, Wolfe, Copeland and Schuyler, and unanimously adopted by the entire body. This is how Surry's teachers and committeemen stand on the question of six months' schools, and what the entire county stands squarely behind them. This is the call for better things from a western county. Mr. Brogden was highly gratified and has taken back to Raleigh our message from Surry, that we want the best and are going to have it. ANNIE BRITTON, Supervisor.

Prayer for the End of the Epidemic.

To the Editor of The Observer: Please ask all the praying readers of your good paper to pray earnestly to Almighty God to check the influenza epidemic that is sweeping our country. This is what the people did in Bible times. Please excuse any mistake I may make. I am an uneducated farmer's wife. MRS. J. S. OSBORN. Locust, Oct. 17.

TAR HEEL PRINTS

The Indian Sacrifice. (From The Wilmington Star.) In the battle casualty list sent out from Washington last Monday there appears the name of a Cherokee Indian from North Carolina. Steve Younder, of Cherokee, died of wounds received in battle. Putting it Mildly. (From The North Wilkesboro Hustler.) A person who has plenty at home and is making money every day that he lives and won't buy his full length he financially in bonds is worse than any deserter that ever hid in the mountains and should receive the same treatment socially from the public.

SODA FOUNTAINS CLOSED.

Gaffney, Oct. 17.—Last Tuesday the health authorities closed all the soda fountains and soft drink places in Gaffney in an attempt to prevent as far as possible the spread of influenza. Those who had a supply of ice cream on hand were permitted to sell it by using cones. As far as could be learned all of the places are cheerfully complying with the order.

LOOKING BACKWARD

TEN YEARS AGO TWENTY YEARS AGO

Raleigh, Oct. 17.—It is understood that former Associate Justice Walter A. Montgomery will use Thomas Dixley to Montgomery's reference to him in a speech here last week. It is said that Montgomery has retained on for \$50,000 damages for alleged slander in Dixon's reply to Montgomery's reference to him in a speech here last week. It is said that Montgomery has retained on for \$50,000 damages for alleged slander in Dixon's reply to Montgomery's reference to him in a speech here last week.

Noah Webster was 150 years old Friday. As father of American lexicography and author of the Blueback speller he lives today in the hearts of the people. Mrs. W. H. Dula will leave Tuesday for New York to spend some time with her sister, Mrs. J. C. Leslie. Miss Nancy Brown, who is expected home tomorrow from Mount Airy, will be accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Gaston G. Galloway.

Mr. W. C. Via, of Wadesboro, spent yesterday in the city, stopping at the Buford hotel. Mr. W. E. Jones, of High Point, was a Charlotte visitor yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Walter S. Alexander are expected home in a few days from the north where they have been spending some time.

The cotton receipts yesterday amounted to 213 bales at 2.05 cents. The many friends of Miss Roberta Lord, of Wilmington, will be interested to know that she will spend the winter in Charlotte with her sister, Mrs. John S. Watters. Mr. C. F. Cline has been elected cashier of the Bank of Greensboro, which is to open its doors for business December 1. Mr. Cline is an experienced banker, having served in various capacities in the Greensboro and City National banks of Greensboro.

Miss Celeste Henkel, of Lenoir, spent yesterday in the city shopping. Mrs. E. C. Jenkins, of Norfolk, Va., will arrive in the city today to visit Mrs. John G. Bryce, at her home in Dilworth. Mr. D. L. Culberson, of Rockingham, was registered yesterday among the guests at the Southern Manufacturers' club.

Mr. J. A. Solomon yesterday was awarded by Mr. W. I. Henderson the contract for the erection at once of a house to contain fourteen rooms, the north side of East Fifth street. The house will cost in the neighborhood of \$4,000. A small sized audience seemed to enjoy the presentation of "Human Hearst" at the Academy of Music last night.

REV. C. T. WILLINGHAM VICTIM OF INFLUENZA

Missionary to Japan Dies in Wilmington Ten Days Following Brother's Death. Special to The Observer. Wilmington, Oct. 17.—Among the victims of influenza in this city was Rev. Calder T. Willingham, for ten days a missionary to Japan, sent there by the foreign mission board of the southern Baptist convention, of which his father, the late Dr. Robert J. Willingham, of Richmond, for many years was secretary. Rev. Mr. Willingham died Tuesday morning, after several days following the death of his brother, Dr. Benjamin J. Willingham, of this city, who also fell a victim of influenza. Pneumonia following influenza was the immediate cause of death. The body was taken to Richmond Tuesday night for burial Wednesday.

Rev. C. T. Willingham was in his 40th year. Seven years ago he married Miss Foy Johnson, daughter of Dr. Livingston Johnson, of Raleigh, editor of The Biblical Recorder. She accompanied him on his return to Japan and worked with him until last summer, when they came home on furlough. Two weeks ago he hurried to his stricken brother, Dr. B. J. Willingham, here, and after a few days' stay he returned to his home in Wilmington. He was already unwell, but he did not fear. He loved his own and he loved his work and he loved life. He fought his best and believed he would lose if God's hour had come. When he was in the hospital he prayed God aloud and waited. In his delirium he was preaching in the Japanese tongue and begging his hearers to turn to Jesus and there was something so natural about it that those standing by wanted to turn afresh to Him, it was declared.

"FIRE PREVENTION DAY" IS AGAIN POSTPONED. Special to The Observer. Raleigh, Oct. 17.—The continued serious influenza epidemic in North Carolina makes it expedient for the observance of "fire prevention day," November 3, to be called off, says James R. Young, state insurance commissioner and fire marshal. But he wants every North Carolinian to bear in mind that the week following November 2 is to be observed as "clean-up week" and that this is to be observed by individuals in their homes and in their places of business, manufacturers and work shops through personal effort at making sure of the safe condition of flues and heating apparatus and clearing out waste paper, trash and rubbish from closets, cellars, attics and out-of-the-way places that might start or help along preventable fires.

Stanley Over the Top in Liberty Loan Drive. Special to The Observer. Stanley, Oct. 17.—Liberty day was celebrated in Gaston county Monday and Stanley, which had been apportioned \$15,000 of the fourth Liberty loan, went over the top by a great margin. Stanley is a town of about 4,000 people and through the efforts of R. F. Craig, Howard Thompson, Carl Finger, E. G. McClure and J. G. Rutledge, the people raised the amount proportioned very readily.

Three Die at Gaffney of Spanish Influenza. First White People to Succumb to Malady at Gaffney—Other Cases in Town. Special to The Observer. Gaffney, Oct. 17.—Three deaths occurred yesterday morning in Gaffney from influenza. Dr. J. C. Miller, who was pharmacist for the Charles Druggery company, Mrs. Carrie Benson, stenographer for the Gaffney Manufacturing company, and Mrs. Broadus Brown. These were the first deaths to occur here from the disease among the white people. It was reported this morning that there were several cases in Gaffney but the patients are all doing nicely.

Wadesboro Situation Shows Some Improvement. Additional Precautions Taken to Prevent Further Spread of Disease in Town. Special to The Observer. Wadesboro, Oct. 17.—The "flu" situation seems to be improving here. The serious cases show improvement. Quite a number have escaped pneumonia and complication. George Lockhart, a native of Columbia, was buried here yesterday morning, he having died of pneumonia in Columbia. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Adams, of Charlotte.

Community Nurses for Spartanburg Planned. Special to The Observer. Spartanburg, Oct. 17.—At a meeting yesterday afternoon attended by a number of prominent church workers, Red Cross officials, trained nurses, mill men and other interested parties, in the city hall, plans for employing community nurses at Spartanburg and the neighboring mills were discussed, and a temporary organization to carry out the plan formed. Dr. A. P. Gilmore was elected chairman; Ben N. Montgomery, vice president; and Mrs. W. G. Lee, secretary and treasurer. A campaign for members will be shortly inaugurated and a permanent organization perfected. It is planned to secure graduate nurses for the various mill communities, the cost to be borne by the city, by the mills and by the members.